(b) to (d) The import of ATF is permitted under Special Import Licence. The review of IMPORT EXPORT POLICY is an ongoing process.

Accelerated programme for oil exploration

1398. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest position about implementation of the Rs. 6500 crore Accelerated Programme for Oil Exploration (APEX) intended to make up for the petroleum exploration efforts;

(b) what are the achievements made under this programme, so far vis-a-vis the targets prescribed;

(c) whether the recent evaluation of APEX by the Planning Commission has shown considerable slippings in seismic survey planned for 1994-95; and

(d) if so, what are the results of evaluation and what remedial steps Government have taken or propose to take to adhere to the prescribed targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) The achievement under the various activities has been as below:

	Target	Achievement
2 D Seismic (SLK)	45,965	44,272
3 D Seismic (SSK)	19,032	21,123
Exploratory Drilling (000 metre)	560.79	491.65

Whereas the target for departmental work has been exceeded, there has been a slippage in the work done through contracts. Measures taken to expedite work include early finalisation of contracts, replacement of damaged charter hire rig, check-up/ overhaul of critical rig components, etc.

बिहार में अनधिकृत गस कनेक्शन

1399. **श्री आस मोहम्मद :** क्या **पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गस** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान बिहार में प्रत्येक वर्ष रसोई गैस के कितने अनधिकृत कनक्शनों का पता लगाया गया है;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने ऐसे अनधिकृत कनेक्शनों का नियमित कर दिया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा) : (क) बिहार राज्य में गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान अनधिकृत एल०पी०जी० कनैक्शनों के कथित मामलों के बारे में पता नहीं चला है ।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

Letters from Members of Parliament

1400. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 5742 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th May, 1994 and state:—

(a) whether it is a fact that replies to 1406 letters received in the Ministry from Members of Parliament in 1993-94 were not sent;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government didn't take any interest in replying to the said letters;

(c) whether Government propose to affix responsibility and take any action against the officers who didn't reply to these letters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) Out of the letters received in the Ministry from Members of Parliament upto 31-3-1994 which remained unanswered till that date, now only 194 letters are pending. The pendency is because in most of the cases the matters raised in the letters cannot be finally disposed of by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas since these necessitate collection of data or requisite information from various Public Sector Undertakings. This process takes a lot of time.

Exploration on petroleum resources in Cauvery basin

1401. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) how much area is covered in the Cauvery Basin for geological prospectivity;

(b) what are the estimated reserves in these areas; and

(c) what are the steps taken to explore and develop the petroleum resources in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT SATISH SHARMA): (a) The entire prospective area in Cauvery Basin comprising of 15,200 sq. km. onland and 17,700 sq km. offshore has been covered by geoscientific surveys.

(b) The estimated geological hydrocarbon reserves as on 1.4.94 in the Cauvery Basin for onland and offshore are 48.86 MMt and 34.83 MMt. respectively

(c) Presently 4 field parties are deployed in the basin for acquiring seismic data and 8 drilling rigs are deployed for delineating the existing fields as well as for testing hydrocarbon potential of new prospects.

Pending oil projects from Gujarat

1402. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of various oil schemes and projects in Gujarat, lying pending with the Central Government:

(b) the reasons for the delay, if any; and

(c) the time by which these projects and schemes are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The following projects|schemes pertaining to oil sector in Gujarat are under different stages of processing in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas Corporation:--

(1) Commercialisation in In-situ combustion at Balol (Main) of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation.

(2) Application of In-situ Combustion at Santal Phase-II of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation.

(3) Indian Oil Corporation's proposal relating to Gujarat Refinery expansion